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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Second Committee

Organization of work of the Second Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Second Committee will be listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee (A/C.2/62/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/62/100).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/62/250) and the availability of documentation. The number of meetings suggested for the general discussion of the agenda items allocated to the Second Committee is based on past experience.

List of documents

3. Attention is drawn to the addendum to the present note (A/C.2/62/L.1/Add.1) which lists the documentation submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Second Committee.

Practices and working methods

4. The Second Committee, in implementing General Assembly resolution 58/316, in particular paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of section C of the annex, shall utilize or expand the practice of interactive debates and introduce the practice of "question time".

Length of statements

5. The Second Committee, in the past, decided to limit statements on all agenda items to 7 minutes and to limit statements during the general debate to 15 minutes.

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Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

6. Taking into account the availability of conference services for the Main Committees of the General Assembly, an average of seven formal meetings a week have been scheduled for the Second Committee. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In this connection, the Assembly decided to remind delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement of the presence of at least one quarter of the members of the Committee to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Informal consultations

7. In view of the financial measures affecting conference services, and as indicated in the programme of work, some of the formal meetings allocated to the Second Committee will be utilized for informal consultations under the chairmanship of the Bureau members of the Committee so as to ensure full servicing of those consultations. In accordance with the established practice, informal consultations will be used for expressing general observations on the proposals and for adopting them ad referendum. All drafting will be done at the level of informal "informal" consultations (without interpretation or other services) and will be conducted by the appointed coordinators/facilitators.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

8. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (c) of section D of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in plenary; however, it was clarified by the General Committee that the relevant parts of chapter I of the report that fall under agenda items already allocated to the Main Committees would be considered by the Committee concerned for final action by the General Assembly (see A/59/250/Add.1, para. 4).

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

9. Bearing in mind the number of meetings available to the Second Committee, it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 30 November 2007 for the conclusion of its work.

Annex

Draft programme of work of the Second Committee

Week of 17-21 September 2007

Thursday, 20 September

4.30 p.m.

Organization of work

Week of 8-12 October 2007

Monday, 8 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

General debate

Tuesday, 9 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

General debate (*continued*)

Wednesday, 10 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

General debate (*concluded*)

Friday, 12 October

Eid Al-Fitr, United Nations holiday

Week of 15-19 October 2007

Monday, 15 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

***Item 52*: Macroeconomic policy questions**

(b) International financial system and development

(c) External debt crisis and development

Tuesday, 16 October

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 52 (b) and (c)

Wednesday, 17 October

3-6 p.m.

***Item 59*: Operational activities for development**

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

(b) Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

(c) South-South cooperation for development

Thursday, 18 October[1]

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

***Item 59*: Operational activities for development** (*continued*)

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)

(b) Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)

(c) South-South cooperation for development (*continued*)

Friday, 19 October[2]

10 a.m.-1 p.m. (*side event*)

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 59 (a) through (c)

Week of 22-26 October 2007

Monday, 22 October

3-6 p.m.

***Item 41*: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**

Tuesday, 23 October

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 41

Thursday, 25 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dialogue with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions

3-5 p.m. (*side event*)

5-6 p.m.

***Item 52*: Macroeconomic policy questions**

(a) International trade and development

[1] Observance of World Food Day.
[2] Launch of the International Year of the Potato.

Friday, 26 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 52*: Macroeconomic policy questions** (*continued*)

(a) International trade and development (*continued*)

Week of 29 October-2 November 2007

Monday, 29 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

***Item 54*: Sustainable development**

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity

(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth session

(h) Sustainable mountain development

(i) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 52 (a)

Tuesday, 30 October

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-4.30 p.m.

***Item 54*: Sustainable development** (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (*continued*)

(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*continued*)

(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*)

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (*continued*)

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (*continued*)

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*)

(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth special session (*continued*)

(h) Sustainable mountain development (*continued*)

(i) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy (*continued*)

4.30-6 p.m.

***Item 55*: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

Wednesday, 31 October

3-6 p.m.

***Item 56*: Globalization and interdependence**

(a) Globalization and interdependence

(b) Science and technology for development

(c) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 54 (a) through (i) and item 55

Thursday, 1 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 56*: Globalization and interdependence** (*continued*)

(a) Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

(b) Science and technology for development (*continued*)

(c) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (*continued*)

3-6 p.m. (*side event*)

Friday, 2 November

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 56 (a) through (c)

Week of 5-9 November 2007

Monday, 5 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 51*: Information and communication technologies for development**

***Item 129*: Programme planning**

3-6 p.m.

***Item 57*: Groups of countries in special situations**

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Tuesday, 6 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

***Item 58*: Eradication of poverty and other development issues**

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

(b) Women in development

(c) Human resources development

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 51 and 57 (a) and (b)

Wednesday, 7 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. (*side event*)

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 58 (a) through (c)

Thursday, 8 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 61*: Towards global partnerships**

Friday, 9 November

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 61

Week of 12-16 November 2007

Monday, 12 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities

3-6 p.m. (*side event*)

Tuesday, 13 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 60*: Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research**

3-6 p.m. (*side event*)

Wednesday, 14 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

***Item 53*: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development**

(a) Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

(b) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 60

Thursday, 15 November

6 p.m.: deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 53 (a) and (b)

Friday, 16 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. (*side event*)

3-6 p.m.

Informal consultations

Action on outstanding items

Week of 19-23 November 2007

Wednesday, 21 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

Informal consultations

Action on outstanding items

Thursday, 22 November

Thanksgiving, United Nations holiday

Week of 26-30 November 2007

Wednesday, 28 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

Informal consultations

Action on outstanding items

Friday, 30 November

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

***Item 121*: Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly**

Informal consultations

Action on outstanding items

3-6 p.m.

Informal consultations

Action on outstanding items

Conclusion of the work of the Second Committee